THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 701 *Monday, Feb.* 23, 1824 *Price* 1*d.*

Drury Lane Theatre.

THE *Merry Wives of Windsor*, with its harmonious additions, was attended on Saturday by an audience that crowded every part of the house. It was acted with great spirit and effect, and the music was delightfully executed by Mr. BRAHAM, Miss STEPHENS, Miss COBITT, and Miss POVEY. Mr. DOWTON amply merited the applause he received in *Falstaff*. Mr. OXBERRY, in *Justice Shallow*, was effective; and amidst the other well executed parts, that of *Master Slender*, by Mr. HARLEY, was particularly correct and humorous.

Lodoiska followed.

Covent Garden Theatre.

THE new Opera of *Native Land* went off with fine effect on Saturday night, both in the music and the acting. It is really a superior Opera to many that we have seen of late years. Mr. SINCLAIR, Miss PATON, and Miss M. TREE, sang charmingly, and had several encores. The Farce of *The Poachers* was much laughed at.

OLYMPIC.—This Evening, *Albina*, with *Don Giovanni; or, the Spectre on Horseback*, for the Benefit of MRS. FITZWILLIAM.

At *The Adelphi* this evening *Tereza Tomkins*, *L'amour*, and *Tom Jones*, in which Mr. WRENCH and Mr. REEVE will perform.

The "JOHN BULL" and MR. KEAN.

The *John Bull* of yesterday, has the following in reference to the paragraph in its former Number respecting Mr. KEAN:—

"*We are sick of letters about* Mr. KEAN, *and the* GIG—*it was no doubt a frolic, but the thing is fact—if* Mr. KEAN *did not ride across the stage in the "identical gig" let him say so—we know he did, and where is the harm of it after all?*"

So, Mr. BULL, you allow at length that it was a *frolic*, and that there was *no harm in it!* Pray, then, why did you make it known to the world in a manner evidently intended to injure Mr. KEAN, by stating the matter thus:—

"Mr. KEAN, *the successor of* JOHN KEMBLE, *in the first walks of Tragedy, performed the part of* WEARE *the other evening at the Circus.*"

Every one will thus see that Mr. Bull holds up Mr. Kean in the one paragraph as doing a thing unbecoming the successor of John Kemble; and in the other says, it was a *frolic*, and where was the *harm of it!* So much for malignity and inconsistency.

THE SUPPRESSED TRAGEDY.

Mr. Martin Archer Shee, the author of the new Tragedy refused to be licensed, having appealed to the Lord Chamberlain against the Licenser's decree stating, that "*not one sentiment, moral, religious, or political, of which an honest subject of this empire can justly disapprove, or which any honourable man; of any party, should be ashamed to avow,*"—has received the following Letter in reply.

Grosvenor-square, Feb 19, 1824.

"Sir—Thinking Mr. Colman a very sufficient judge of his duty, and as I agree in his conclusion (from the account he has given me of the tragedy of *Alasco*), I do conclude that at this time, without considerable omissions, the tragedy should not be acted; and whilst I am persuaded that your intentions are upright, I conceive that it is precisely for this reason (though it may not strike authors), that it has been the wisdom of the Legislature to have an Examiner appointed, and power given to the Chamberlain of the Household to judge whether certain plays should be acted at all, or not acted at particular times.

"I do not mean to enter into an argument with you, Sir, on the subject, but think that your letter, conceived in polite terms to me, calls upon me to return an answer, showing that your tragedy has been well considered. "I remain, Sir, with esteem,

"Your obedient servant,

MONTROSE.

"Martin Archer Shee, Esq. &c. &c."

Mr. Shee remarks thus upon the above.

"From the above official letter, Sir, you will perceive that the Lord Chamberlain acknowledges *the uprightness of my intentions*. You will perceive that his Grace neither asserts nor insinuates that my work contains one sentiment or expression in itself morally, religiously, or politically objectionable, but expressly alleges the *present time* as the cause of its exclusion from the stage. But, Sir, the letter of the Lord Chamberlain excites reflections far more important than any which concern the interests of so humble an individual as I am. We find, from that letter, that the *fiat* of the newly-appointed Examiner is irrevocable; that he rules Lord Paramount of the British Drama, and that, in a question of appeal against the manner in which he exercises the duties of his office, the Lord Chamberlain thinks himself justified in taking the report of the officer accused, as the foundation of the judgment which he is called upon to pronounce."

Mr. Shee intends to publish his Tragedy immediately.

☞ It is respectfully suggested to our Friends to be careful, in going to the Theatre, not to be imposed on by an imitation of this Paper.

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Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, Shakespeare's Tragedy of

HAMLET.

Claudius, King of Denmark, Mr CHAPMAN,
Hamlet, Mr C. KEMBLE,
Horatio, Mr BENNETT, Laertes, Mr ABBOTT,
Polonius, Mr BLANCHARD,
Rosencrantz, Mr BAKER, Osrick, Mr FARLEY,
Guildenstern, Mr CLAREMONT, Friar, Mr MEARS
Marcellus, Mr HORREBOW,
Bernardo, Mr HENRY, Francisco, Mr MASON,
1st Actor, Mr LEY, 2nd Actor, Mr ATKINS,
First Grave-digger, Mr BARTLEY,
Second Grave-digger, Mr BARNES,
Ghost of Hamlet's Father, Mr EGERTON,
Ophelia, Miss M. TREE,
Gertrude, Queen of Denmark, Mrs FAUCIT,
Actress, Miss HENRY,

To conclude with, a grand new Comic Pantomime, called,

Harlequin & Poor Robin ;

Jack, the Miller, (afterwards Harlequin) Mr ELLAR,
Gaffer Gandy, (afterwards Pantaloon) Mr BARNES, Giles, Mr MEARS
Poor Robin, or Poor Sir Bob, (the Astrologer) Mr J. ISAACS,
The Rat—the Cat—the Dog—by Debutants.
The Priest all Shaven and Shorn, (afterwards Clown) Mr J. S. GRIMALDI
Rosebud, the Maid all Forlorn, (afterwards Columbine) Mrs VEDY,
Squire Sap, (afterwards Dandy Lover) Mr DUCROW,

Scene 1—Village and Water-Mill, by Sunset—Jack's House just Finished—2.—Perspective Landscape and surrounding Country—Grieve. 3.—The Inside of Jack's House—W. Grieve. 4.—The Village of Gandercluc, by Sunrise—T. Grieve. 5.—JANUARY.—Hyde-Park, and Constitution-Hill-Gates, on a Frosty Morning—T. Grieve. 6.—St. James's Park and Canal Buckingham House in the distance.—T. Grieve.—PATENT SKATING. 7.—MAY—Kew Gardens on a May Morning—T. Grieve. 8—Outside of Barber's Shop—Hodgins. 9.—Inside of Barber's Shop—Hodgins. Clown's Patent Machinery to Shave by Steam. 10.—JULY—Burlington Arcade at Night.—W. Grieve. 11—Outside of Sir Simon Simper's House—Lappino 12.—Inside of Sir Simon Simper's House—W. Grieve. 13.—SEPTEMBER—Vauxhall Bridge—T. Grieve. 14—Vauxhall Gardens—Grieve Clown's Aeronautil Excursion from London to Paris, including the various Views from the English Metropolis, till his Arrival in the Thulleries Gardens in France. 15 and 16—The Village of Bow, near London.—Pugh. Leadenhall Market—Pugh. 17—NOVEMBER—Grand Civic Feast in Guildhall—Pugh. 18.—Mathematical and Astronomical Instrument Maker's Shop—Luppino. 19 and 20—DECEMBER—Poor Old Robin's Hut—Temple of Iris—Grieve.

To-morrow, Native Land, with the Poachers.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

By Special *Desire.*

This Evening, Shakspeare's Tragedy of

HAMLET.

Claudius, King of Denmark, Mr POWELL,
Hamlet, Mr KEAN,
Laertes, Mr MERCER, Polonius, Mr TERRY,
Rosencrantz, Mr WEBSTER,
Horatio, Mr ARCHER, Osrick, Mr PENLEY,
Guildenstern, Mr Harrold, Marcellus, Mr Turnour,
Bernardo, Mr Howell, Francisco, Mr Read,
First Actor, Mr THOMPSON,
Second Actor, Mr W. H. WILLIAMS,
First Grave digger, Mr DOWTON,
Second Grave-digger, Mr HUGHES,
Sailors, Messrs POVEY and SEYMOUR,
Ghost of Hamlet's Father, Mr WALLACK,
Gertrude, Queen of Denmark, Miss BOYCE.
Ophelia, Madame VESTRIS, Actress, Mrs KNIGHT

To conclude with, the Grand Spectacle of

The Cataract of the Ganges.

Acbar, (Emperor of Delhi.) Mr POWELL,
Jam Saheb, (The Rhajah of Guzarte) Mr YOUNGE,
Mokarra, (Grand Brahmin of the Jahrejah Tribe) Mr WALLACK,
Iran, (a young Hindu Warrior,) Mr PENLEY,
Merakagee, (a Hindu Peasant,) Mr J. BARNES,
Ambassador, (from the Emperor of Delhi,) Mr WEBSTER,
Mordaunt, (an Officer in the English Army,) Mr ARCHER,
Jack Robinson, (Mordaunt's Servant,) Mr HARLEY,
Princess Dessa, Miss PHILLIPS,
Zamine, (of Guzaret.) Miss L. KELLY,
Matali, (a female Hindu Peasant of the Jhalla,) Mrs HARLOWE.
Ubra, (her Daughter,) Miss POVEY,

To-morrow, Lodoiska, with Rumfustian Innamorato, & the Cataract.